

# Talking partners

## Purpose

A technique used to ensure effective conversations between pairs of participants.

## Process

- Participants identify a talking partner who they will share a number of conversations with throughout the learning session.
- When advised, participants talk about the meaning of a specified issue with their partner.
- Participants are to follow the rules of meaning making:
  - 1 Suspend judgement.
  - 2 Ask questions to clarify meaning.
  - 3 Listen attentively.
  - 4 Avoid jumping to conclusions.
  - 5 Let the conversation take its own course.
  - 6 Avoid getting into a debate or argument.
  - 7 Be open to others' opinions.

## Product

There is no published product from this technique but it does produce better informed participants with heightened understanding about an issue.

## PrimaryConnections examples

- What are the purposes of assessment in the primary classroom?
- Why is scientific literacy a high priority for all citizens?
- How is science linked with literacy in PrimaryConnections?

## Reference

Senge, Peter (1990). *The Fifth Discipline: The Art and Practice of the Learning Organisation*. New York: Doubleday.